REMARKS

Claims 70-82 are pending in this application. Claims 74-80 were withdrawn from consideration. Claims 70-82 are canceled and new claims 83-94 have been added. Support for the new claims can be found in the original application pages 3 through 8. Applicant believes the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request they be entered and approved.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claims 70 and 81-82 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by EP 0910955 to Hebpurn et al. ("Hebpurn"). This rejection has been obviated in view of the cancellation of claims 70-82 and the submission of new claims 83-94.

Claims 70 and 81-82 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by WO 98/56883 to Tacconi ("Tacconi"). This rejection has been obviated in view of the cancellation of claims 70-82 and the submission of new claims 83-94.

Claims 71-73 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0910955 to Hebpurn et al. ("Hebpurn"). This rejection has been obviated in view of the cancellation of claims 70-82 and the submission of new claims 83-94.

Claim 71 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by WO 98/56883 to Tacconi ("Tacconi"). This rejection has been obviated in view of the cancellation of claims 70-82 and the submission of new claims 83-94.

No fees as a result of this response are required. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-3420, reference 22106965-104181(VKF).

Respectfully submitted,

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